

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Standard of Living	DATE DISTR.	8 October 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	3 25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	008508

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Salaries

1. The average monthly salary of a technical employee is approximately 1,100 zloty, while that of an administrative clerk is approximately 800 zloty. To each of these figures can be added approximately 400 zloty as bonuses. The salary of a skilled laborer is approximately 2,000 zloty per month, while an unskilled laborer earns only 700 - 800 zloty per month. 25X1
2. Artists, writers, and engineers and technicians who work in the planning offices (Biura Projektowe) earn good salaries of 2,500 to 3,000 zloty. Independent artisans and those in certain cooperatives have good incomes, as do some independent lawyers and physicians or those organized in cooperatives. Farmers also get a comparatively high price for their government quotas.
3. Officials of self-supporting government enterprises are paid at the end of the work month, and their bonuses cannot exceed 60 percent of the basic salary. Officials of government-supported enterprises are paid in advance for the work month and do not receive bonuses. Their salary is then approximately 25 percent lower than those in self-supporting government enterprises.
4. Salaries of employees in cooperatives are approximately 10 percent lower than those in self-supporting government enterprises. In general, salaries in the commercial sector are from 15 to 20 percent lower than those in the industrial or construction sectors.
5. A family allowance, available to all employees under certain conditions, consists of 120 zloty for the first child, 90 zloty for each additional child, and 60 zloty for the wife, provided that she is not a wage earner and provided that there are children in the family. If these last two conditions are not met, an employee does not receive any allowance for his wife.

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Commodity Prices

6. Food prices as of May 1954 were as follows:

butter: 60 zloty per kilogram
 bread : 3 " " "
 sugar : 13 1/2 " " "
 meat : 330 " " "
 flour: 8 " " "
 tea : 150-200 " " "
 milk : 4 " " liter
 eggs : 1 1/2 zloty each.

7. Clothing prices were as follows:

pure wool material: 1,000 zloty per meter if of foreign
 origin or 800 if in government store
 pure wool cardigan: 500 - 800 zloty
 populin shirt : 240 zloty each
 shoes : 400 - 1,000 zloty per pair
 rubber heels : 180 zloty per pair
 hats : 65 - 200 zloty each.

8. Certain fixed expenses were as follows:

rent : approximately 100 zloty per month for a single room;
 kitchen and bathroom shared with other tenants
 gas and electricity: 60 - 70 zloty per month for up to 25 kilowatt hours;
 current in excess of this limit charged at triple the price.
 radio license : 15 zloty per month.

Decrease in standard of living

9. Deduction of approximately 175 zloty for rent, gas, electricity, and radio license from a clerk's average salary of approximately 1300 zloty leaves an amount insufficient for buying food for a family of two. New clothing is almost out of the question. A minimum of 2,500 zloty per month is needed for a family of two, clothing prices not included, which means that both husband and wife must work.
10. Despite all currency reforms, the constant rise in prices since 1948 has brought a corresponding decrease in the standard of living. In 1948 a managerial official, for example, earned approximately 1,620 zloty. In 1948 representative commodity prices ran as follows:

butter : official market 600 zloty per kilogram, free market 1,000 -
 1,300 zloty per kilogram
 bread : 45 - 60 zloty per kilogram
 sugar : 180 zloty per kilogram
 pure wool: 6,000 - 7,500 zloty per square meter
 shoes : factory-made 8,000 zloty per pair, hand-made 18,000 -
 20,000 zloty per pair.

11. Most people in Poland today are still living off part of their savings prior to 1946, but these savings are being depleted rapidly. Parcels received from abroad, especially from the United States and Great Britain, have been of considerable assistance. A summary of living conditions in Poland can be expressed as follows:

- a. Most intellectual workers live under very difficult material conditions.
- b. Skilled laborers earn much more than the average salary, while unskilled laborers earn very little.

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- c. The standard of living for farmers in collective farms and government farms is approximately equal to that of unskilled workers, while the standard of living for independent farmers is much higher.
- d. Only a small part of the population (writers, artists, lawyers, doctors, engineers, technicians in planning departments, and artisans) lives under good material conditions.

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